



GOVERNMENT BODY:
DATE:
TIME & PLACE:

WAUPACA COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING MINUTES
 Waupaca County Local Emergency Planning Committee
 Thursday, January 8, 2026 - 7:00 am
 Room 1153, Waupaca County Law Enforcement Center
 1402 Royalton Street, Waupaca, WI

DRAFT

Written materials completed in advance of the meeting may be found at www.waupacacounty-wi.gov under the Agenda and Minutes tab, select the Committee/Board link, and then the “Packet” and “More” links.

- The meeting will broadcast for remote access on a live stream on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLTWDB7UAKvFtU07vcs08zQ/>
- This meeting may inadvertently cause a quorum of other County Committees or the County Board of Supervisors. No business decisions of any other committees or the Board of Supervisors will be conducted at this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER AND OPEN MEETING STATEMENT

Bryant Esch called this meeting to order at 7:00 AM.

OPEN SESSION: This meeting and all other meetings of this committee are open to the public. Proper notice has been posted and given to the press in accordance with Wis. Statutes so that the citizenry may be aware of the time, place and agenda of this meeting.

ROLL CALL

Member	Present	Member	Present	Member	Present
Andrew Erdmann	<input type="checkbox"/>	James Card	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nick Romanesko	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bryant Esch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jed Wohlt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Riley Van Thiel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casey Beyersdorf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Treu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stacie Nellis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cathi Wegener	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jesse Cuff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Fenske	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curtis Veit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Barden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Timothy Wilz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dan Nehring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Duba	<input type="checkbox"/>	Travis Nummerdor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
David Morack	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Grondahl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Zac Van Asten	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Diane Meullens	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Studzinski	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Halverson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kristy Opperman	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Faith Parker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mazie Rief	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

REVIEW AND APPROVE

- **AGENDA**
 - Motioned by Morack, second by Wohlt; motion carried.
- **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
 - Motioned by Morack, second by Halverson; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Esch opened the meeting for public comment. There was none.

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1) Election of Officers
 - a) Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary election of officers takes place every even numbered year (every 2).

- b) Chair nominations opened with Morack nominating Esch. Esch accepted. Motioned by Morack, second by Beyersdorf; motion carried. Esch is Chair.
 - c) Vice Chair nominations opened with Van Asten nominating Nehring. Nehring accepted. Motioned by Morack, second by Wohlt; motion carried. Nehring is Vice Chair.
 - d) Secretary nominations opened with Morack nominating Parker. Parker Accepts. Motion carried.
- 2) Update LEPC members list
 - a) Two changes to our member list that needs approval. Cloud has retired and Card is stepping in for him. Nummerdor will be added to the member list as industry.
 - b) Looking for more members to join the group. We have a representative from the DNR but serves on many different LEPC groups.
 - c) This will be brought to the County Board in February.
 - 3) Review By-Laws and EPCRA Requirements
 - a) No feedback was given about by-laws. Halverson stated, "If there are any changes that need to be made, please notify him." Bryant signed and approved the reviewed by-laws.
 - b) We have to send notice out to the public about how to receive the information. Publish in early spring.
 - 4) Designation of Compliance Inspector
 - a) We are required to have an EPCRA Compliance Inspector. We have had Wisconsin as our Compliance Inspector and will continue to name them as such. All facilities have been cooperative and understanding of Compliance.
 - 5) Review Off-site plans and new planning facility
 - a) Required to review 10 off-site plans annually. They 10 plans are chosen to be reviewed by chemical type instead of by location. Halverson uses a program with facilities to help keep plans updated. Fire departments have access to this program and are notified when a change occurs.
 - b) Tier two (2) reporting changes daily. Every chemical has a different threshold quantity and this upcoming year, Gusmer Enterprises has a higher quantity of sulfuric acid (forklift batteries).
 - 6) Member reports
 - a) Public Health
 - i) Indoor air quality safety: Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer. Radon is naturally occurring and we have high rates of radon in Waupaca County. Carbon Monoxide poisoning rates are higher than the state. We applied for the Tracking Data in Action Grant and we were awarded. We are distributing radon test kits and CO detectors and partnered with fire departments.
 - ii) Participating in routine preparedness exercises.
 - iii) POD (Point Of Dispensing) planning and sheltering planning are in progress.
 - iv) Long-Term Care Workgroup is getting together Feb 10th at Bethany Home to practice a table-top exercise.
 - b) Emergency Management
 - i) Van Asten is working with Amater radio group to have an exercise at the fair grounds.
 - ii) Code RED is no longer, we have transitioned to Smart911 or RAVE for emergency notifications. Please share this information!
 - c) Highway
 - i) Storms earlier in the month and got busy.
 - ii) Went over winter maintenance budget already.
 - iii) Decision to abandon well on A. Currently have it capped off and is NOT safe for public drinking.
 - iv) Bridge on B in Manawa is going to be rebuilt and widened.

- d) County Chair
 - i) Business as usual. County board has some turnover and some opposition.
 - ii) Budget will be an issue again this year.
 - e) Sherriff's Office
 - i) Ice storms have been a problem.
 - ii) Move Over campaign is going to start soon. Please share!
 - f) Valley Environmental
 - i) Spills have been slow
 - ii) Portage County had a diesel spill.
 - iii) In Milwaukee County, EPCRA things are being done.
 - g) Waupaca Foundry
 - i) Lots of different customers have been coming in and have been asking many questions about how much emissions is it producing and other product information. This is available for people wanting to know.
 - ii) Things are generally kind of slow; manufacturing things is in progress.
 - iii) Recently hired on a Corporate Environmental and Sustainability Manager and will be coming to the next meeting.
 - h) Fire Departments
 - i) Started the year out doing "Extinguish Hunger for Winter" to help stock food pantries in the communities.
 - ii) Departments reporting to government switched reporting over to a new software system that started onboarding in December. Lots of departments have to work with communications center for reports. Trying to get training for members.
 - i) Red Cross
 - i) Hit the ground running with ice storms. Door County had shelters open.
 - ii) Things have been busy starting the year but going forward, plans are being made for training in spring.
 - iii) Mass Care Expo in Iron Mountain for shelter training and understand how Red Cross does things.
 - iv) Installing smoke alarms (could partner if interested for installation), and bed-shakers and strobe lights are available for people that are hearing impaired.
 - j) Veterans Office
 - i) Busy year last year, wrapped up annual report. Nearly 6,000 touchpoints with soup to nuts.
 - ii) Had several outreach events last year for vets. Utilized state/nonprofit grants and donations to help with these events.
 - iii) Supported food insecurity, housing, etc. Maintaining resiliency with the community!
 - k) ThedaCare
 - i) Worked on POD plans and ThedaCare is a closed POD.
 - ii) *Worked on HVA with regional emergency management and HERC. *
 - iii) Opened up a community food pantry to help individuals. Drives are done to help stock and employees help stock.
- * Please send EM your HVA to help with planning. ***

Next meeting April 9, 2026 at 7:00 AM.

Adjournment

Motioned by Beyersdorf, second by Nummerdor; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Faith Parker, Community Health Educator and Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Coordinator.

The Waupaca County Local Emergency Planning Committee may conduct a roll call vote, a voice vote or otherwise decide to approve, reject or modify any item on this agenda. If you are a person who requires special accommodations for the meeting room, please contact Waupaca County Clerk at 715-258-6200, all requests are confidential. Posted 12-30-2025.